



UNITED STATES NORTHERN COMMAND

FEB 07 2019

HQ USNORTHCOM/CS
250 Vandenberg Street, Suite B016
Peterson Air Force Base CO 80914-3801

Mr. Austin Evers, Executive Director, American Oversight
Mr. Jeff Prescott, Executive Director, National Security Action
1030 15th Street SW, Suite B255
Washington DC 20005

Dear Mr. Evers and Mr. Prescott

We received your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated 18 December 2018. Your request was assigned USNORTHCOM FOIA case number 19-R-038. In the request letter, you asked for the following records to be searched in multiple offices, including the Commanders of U.S. Northern Command and U.S. Army North:

1. All final talking points prepared for Secretary Mattis regarding the so-called migrant caravan and issues related to it - such as arrival times, size and composition of the caravan, rules of engagement etc. - including but not limited to those prepared for intergovernmental meetings media appearances, Congressional engagements, or any other official events for which final talking points were prepared.
2. All final talking points prepared for any trips taken by Secretary Mattis to the U.S. - Mexico border or border regions.

USNORTHCOM and U.S. Army North, one of our component commands, do not provide final talking points to the Secretary of Defense; therefore, we did not conduct a search for the records. If they exist, the requested records would most likely be found at the Joint Staff or the Office of the Secretary of Defense. I have not referred your letter to those offices as you submitted an identical request to the OSD/JS FOIA Service Center. The OSD/JS FOIA Service Center will respond to your request directly.

If you are not satisfied with this action, you have the right to appeal to the appellate authority, Ms. Joo Chung, Director of Oversight and Compliance (ODCMO), Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD). The appellate address is: ODCMO Directorate for Oversight and Compliance, 4800 Mark Center Drive, ATTN: DPCLTD, FOIA Appeals, Mailbox #24, Alexandria, VA 22350-1700. As an alternative, you may use the OSD FOIA request portal to submit your appeal electronically at the following

DETER PREVENT DEFEAT

link: <http://pal.whs.mil/palMain.aspx> or email your appeal to OSD.FOIA-APPEAL@mail.mil. If you use email, please have the words "FOIA Appeal" in the subject of the email. Your appeal should cite our case number 19-R-038, be postmarked within 90 days of the date of this response, and be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal" on the request. You also have the right to seek dispute resolution services from USNORTHCOM's FOIA Public Liaison, Mr. Jim Hogan at (571) 372-0462 or OSD.FOIALiaison@mail.mil. Additionally, you have the right to contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001; email at ogis@nara.gov; telephone at (202) 741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at (202) 741-5769.

Sincerely



RICHARD J. GALLANT
Major General, USA
Chief of Staff

cc: ARNORTH/CS